



*Bringing the County Closer to You!*

Isiah Leggett, County Executive  
Timothy Firestone, Chief Administrative Officer

Catherine Matthews, Director  
Juan Cardenas, UCAB Chair

**April 13, 2012**

## **UCAB Discusses Permitting Services with Department Head**

**April 16 7:00pm**

**Upcounty Regional Services Center  
12900 Middlebrook Road, Room A  
Germantown**

The Upcounty Citizens Advisory Board (UCAB) will meet with Permitting Services Director Diane Schwartz-Jones on Monday, April 16 to discuss processes and the future of how to get permits in Montgomery County. She will also explain the new Streamlining Development Initiative --- see more information at <http://permittingervices.montgomerycountymd.gov/DPS/streamlinedevelopment/StreamliningDevelopment.aspx>.

### ***CERB Representative to Observe Board Meeting***

Qi Duan, a representative from the Committee Evaluation and Review Board (CERB), will attend the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting in order to briefly explain CERB's mission and solicit comments on the County's various boards, committees, and commissions. CERB is a group appointed every ten years by the County Executive to review and evaluate the County's boards, committees and commissions (BCCs) with regard to their mission, membership number and structure, overlap or duplication of mission with other BCCs, orientation of new members, and effectiveness in completing their mission. This year, the Upcounty Citizens Advisory Board has prepared comments for CERB ([see Attachment](#)).

### ***Other UCAB News:***

On April 10<sup>th</sup>, UCAB recently presented testimony to the County Council on what they think are priorities for the northern region of the county in the FY13 Operating Budget ([see Attachment](#)).

At UCAB's March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting, General Services Director David Dise updated the Board on the County's Smart Growth projects and on the design and construction status of several new Upcounty facilities --- Gaithersburg Library Renovation, new Animal Shelter, and the Plum Gar Recreation Center Renovation. Other projects included the Clarksburg fire station, Travilah Fire Station, improvements to the Germantown Transit Station, and sewer service for the Clarksburg Historic District. ([see Attachment](#)).

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## ***Reminder!***

The Public Safety Memorial dedication will be held at 100 Edison Park Drive, Gaithersburg, on Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 am. Click [HERE](#) to view the flyer. **Please note that the RSVP deadline has been extended to Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>.**

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## Remaining Focus Groups Scheduled to Get Community Input About Future of ComCast Cable TV Services

Montgomery County has rescheduled three of the previously scheduled free focus group meetings seeking community input to help determine what kinds of cable services the public is interested in receiving as part of a new cable television franchise agreement with Comcast. The company's current 15-year franchise agreement with the County expires on July 1, 2013, and the County will begin negotiations with Comcast this summer for a new franchise agreement which will address past performance, customer service and new technologies.

The three rescheduled focus groups will take place as follows:

- **Youth Focus Group** – Tuesday, April 17, 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. at the Silver Spring Civic Building, One Veterans Place;
- **Consumers Focus Group** – Tuesday, April 17, 7 – 9 p.m. at the Silver Spring Civic Building, One Veterans Place; and
- **Spanish-Speaking Community Focus Group** – Thursday, April 19, 6 – 8 p.m. at the Gilchrist Center for Cultural Diversity, 2424 Reedie Dr, First Floor, Wheaton.

To register for a focus group, go to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SGYF9KH>, or contact Marjorie Williams at 240-777-3762 or via email [Marjorie.williams@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Marjorie.williams@montgomerycountymd.gov).



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## Residents Invited to Participate in Live Online Discussion with County Executive Ike Leggett on County Budget

Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggett will hold a "virtual" Town Hall Meeting on **Wednesday, April 18 from 1 to 2 p.m.** County residents will be able to talk with the County Executive and ask questions through the County's website by clicking on the [Live Discussion with Ike Leggett](#) link.

Residents interested in participating in the online chat can enter questions prior to or during the live discussion. Questions and answers will be available for viewing both during and after the chat.

*For more information, call the Office of Public Information at 240-777-6507.*

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## Commission for Women Offers Seminars

The Montgomery County Commission for Women, in partnership with the Bar Association of Montgomery County, Family Law Section; the Montgomery County Women's Bar Association; and the **Montgomery County Divorce Roundtable** will present two seminars that focus on the legal process of separation and divorce in Montgomery County. Both seminars will take place at the Rockville Memorial Library, 21 Maryland Avenue, Suite 330.

**The first seminar, entitled "When a Marriage Ends: Financial, Property and Practical Issues Both Wife and Husband Must Consider," is scheduled for Thursday, April 19 from 7 to 9 p.m.** Some of the topics that will be covered include grounds for divorce; types of divorce; what to expect in court and alternatives to court; alimony; property division; domestic violence and role of the attorney. **The second seminar, "What About the Children?" is scheduled for Thursday, April 26 from 7 to 9 p.m.** Topics include parental responsibilities during and after divorce; powers of the court; family property; child custody and support; and tips for divorcing parents. The seminars will be presented by mediator/arbitrator Robert L. Baum, Esq. and P. Lindsay Parvis, Esq., Driggs, Hannon, Hessler & Willis, LLP.

To pre-register for one or both seminars, go to <http://divorcelawseminar.eventbrite.com/>. The fee is \$10 per seminar if pre-registering and \$15 at the door.

For more information, call 240-777-8300.

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## Planning Board to Hold Public Hearing on New Transportation Test

When an application for new development is brought before the Planning Board for consideration, planners calculate how much impact each proposal would have on area roads and transit. Last year, the County Council asked planners to develop a new policy area test, the Transportation Policy Area Review (TPAR), that would ensure that transportation infrastructure – roads or transit – would be adequate to serve new residents or anyone traveling to or from a new development. In response, planners developed a draft TPAR test, which will be the subject of a public hearing before the Planning Board next week.

The proposed transportation test would measure the effect of new automobile or transit trips that would be generated by new development in each of the 21 policy areas in Montgomery County. TPAR would replace the Policy Area Mobility Review, or PAMR, that planners have used for the last several years to measure transportation adequacy.

TPAR is based on transportation recommendations that are included in each master plan and take into account regional growth projections. TPAR also would measure automobile and transit adequacy separately to make it clearer for decision-makers to understand how new trips would affect the policy area and make it easier to determine where solutions are needed.

The TPAR test would identify specific road and transit solutions, making it easier to schedule and fund capital projects. Funding is suggested to occur through public-private partnerships linked to county and state transportation budgets. Under the proposed TPAR guidelines, an annual report would monitor both development and the progress of transportation projects.

Sign up to testify at the public hearing at [http://www.montgomeryapps.org/planning\\_board/testify.asp](http://www.montgomeryapps.org/planning_board/testify.asp). At the date prompt, scroll to 4/19 and scroll to item 7.

**WHO:**

Montgomery County Planning Board

**WHAT:**

Transportation Policy Area Review (TPAR) Public Hearing

**WHEN:**

2 p.m. Thursday, April 19

**WHERE:**

Park and Planning Headquarters auditorium  
8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring

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## Spring into Recycling --- Shred, Recycle & Donate!

Saturday, April 21, 2012 10:00am – 2:00pm

Seneca Valley High School  
19401 Crystal Rock Drive  
Germantown

Shred and recycle confidential papers and donate reusable clothing and working household goods.  
This event will be held rain or shine.

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## **Council public hearing on Proposed Ride On Fare Increases**

**April 24 7:30pm**

**Council Office Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Hearing Room  
100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville**

The County Council will receive testimony on potential changes to transportation fees, charges and fares on April 24, 2012. The proposed fare changes will keep the County fares in line with the regional fares set by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA). WMATA has advertised for public comment a wide range of fares that it will consider for its FY13 budget. Public comment on the proposed changes for Ride On fares is solicited on April 24, 2012 at 7:30 pm, Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, 3rd floor hearing room, Rockville, Maryland.

[Click here for a flyer](#)  
[En Español](#)

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## **Montgomery Council Seeks Planning Board Applicants**

The Montgomery County Council is seeking applicants to fill a vacancy on the Montgomery County Planning Board. The term of Amy Presley (Republican) will expire on June 14. Presley has indicated her intent to apply for reappointment to a second term.

Letters expressing interest, including a resume listing professional and civic experience, political party affiliation, home and office telephone numbers and an e-mail address, must be received no later than 5 p.m. on April 25 and should be addressed to: Council President Roger Berliner, County Council Office, 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Md., 20850, or can be e-mailed to [county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov).

No more than three members of the Planning Board may be from the same political party, and all members must be residents and registered voters of Montgomery County when appointed. Members serve four-year terms and are limited to two full terms. Since three Democrats are currently serving on the Board, this position can only be filled by a Republican, or by a voter who declines to affiliate with a party; or by a member of another party officially recognized by the Montgomery County Board of Elections. In addition to Presley, the current board members are Chairman Françoise Carrier (D); Casey Anderson (D) Norman Dreyfuss (R) and Mary Wells-Harley (D).

Annual compensation for board members is currently \$30,000.

For more information contact Linda Lauer at 240.777.7979 or [linda.lauer@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:linda.lauer@montgomerycountymd.gov)

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## **Montgomery County Launches Spanish Language Radio Show on Radio América 1540 AM**

The Montgomery County Office of Public Information (PIO) launched "Montgomery al Día" (Montgomery Today), a weekly half-hour County show on Spanish-language Radio América 1540 AM, headquartered in Wheaton. The live show takes place every Tuesday 2:00-2:30 pm.

The show will also have a television component. "Montgomery al Día" will be recorded live-on-tape at the Radio América studios and broadcasted every week on County Cable Montgomery; Channel 6 for Comcast and RCN subscribers; Channel 30 for Verizon subscribers.

To listen to the live broadcast of "Montgomery al Día" every Tuesday at 2pm visit: [www.radioamerica.net](http://www.radioamerica.net)  
To view archived television shows visit: [www.montgomerycountymd.gov](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov)

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## *April is Arab American Month*

Join us on Thursday, April 26th from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Executive Office Building lobby auditorium as we celebrate Arab American Heritage month with County Executive Isiah Leggett, guest speakers, food and poetry. View artist Ahmed Belal's Arabic artwork in the lobby of the Executive Office Building from April 4th-30th. Please RSVP to [diane.vu@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:diane.vu@montgomerycountymd.gov).

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## *New Tennis Facility Coming to South Germantown Recreational Park!*

A groundbreaking event was held on April 11 for the **Montgomery TennisPlex** that is scheduled to open in Fall 2012 at the South Germantown Recreational Park.

The facility will feature:

- Phase I: Eight (8) new air-conditioned (year-round) indoor hard courts, four (4) new lighted outdoor hard courts, and a 1,500 sq. ft. clubhouse;
- Phase II: Four (4) additional new air-conditioned (year-round) indoor hard courts, two (2) additional new lighted outdoor hard courts, and a health and fitness club



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For News from the Office of the County Executive, visit: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/news>

### *Meeting Agendas:*

County Council [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council)

Planning Board [www.montgomeryplanning.org](http://www.montgomeryplanning.org)